

COMING EVENTS

DEBATE

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A Parliamentary-style debate will be held in the Students' Common Room on Wednesday, June 23rd, at 8.30 p.m. Speakers will be John Edwards and Gordon Low. The position of the Right Honourable Mr. Speaker will be occupied by John Brook. All comers will have the right to speak on behalf of either the Government or the Opposition and interjections from the floor of the House will be permitted.

Subject: That this House Deplores the Prevailing Code of Morality.

DEBATE

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COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The following graduates were elected as members of the University College Council at the poll which concluded on June 15th last:

Mrs. R.A. Ellis - Vice-President of the National Council of Women. Mrs. Ellis is a former President of the N.C.W. and has been associated with the work of the Y.W.C.A., the Mothercraft Society, the Nursery Kindergarten Association, the New Education Fellowship and the National Fitness Advisory Council. Her candidature was endorsed by the Women Graduates' Association, of which she is the senior vice-president.

Professor A.D. Trendall - Master of University House. Before taking up his appointment at the A.N.U., Professor Trendall was Professor of Greek and Archaeology at Sydney University and was Acting Vice-Chancellor there in 1953. He was nominated by Professor C.M.H. Clark and Professor D.P. Scales.

Mr. A.D. McKnight - Assistant Secretary (Cabinet), Prime Minister's Department. Mr. McKnight was formerly a part-time lecturer in law at the Canberra University College. He was nominated by Mr. A.H. Tange and Mr. L.D. Lyons.

Dr. B.D. Cameron - Senior Lecturer in Economics at the College, won an election by the teaching staff of the college, other than professors, as their Council Representative. An election by the Professors for one of their number as their representative on the Council will take place next week.

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FOUND - One dark-red Parker fountain pen. Owner please apply to S.R.C. Office between six and seven p.m.

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LIMERICKS

There was an old man from Algiers,
Who often had too many beers.
He went to the races
Without any braces
And came home in nothing but tears.

There is a young doctor named Todd,
Who is sometimes remarkably odd;
He can make students squirm
With a glance - like a worm,
But I'm sure he's not such a bad bod.

"OBSERVER" - Arts I.

There is a Professor named Clark,
Whose bite is much worse than his bark,
He's a serious bloke,
Tells an occasional good joke,
And writes to the papers for a lark.

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APARTHEID POLICIES IN SOUTH AFRICA

The following is an extract of a letter received by the S.R.C. from the International Department of N.U.A.U.S.:

"The National Union of Australian University Students has received much information recently from South Africa concerning proposed racial segregation in the Universities of Witwatersrand and Capt Town, and we feel bound to support as actively as possible, the claims of academic freedom voiced by many opponents of Dr. Malan's apartheid policies.

"I was therefore instructed at the Annual Council meeting of the National Union to prepare a precis of newspaper reports received from South Africa, for circulation throughout Australia.

"I trust that you will appreciate the seriousness of this alarming situation, and that you will find yourself in a position to support our moves in this matter."

The following report from the "Cape Times" of a speech by Dr. Malan was enclosed with the above letter:

In his address at the graduation ceremony of the University of Stellenbosch yesterday, Dr. Malan, Prime Minister and Chancellor of the University said that academic mixing (*gemengheid*) of White and non-White students in two of the largest and most important universities would be stopped. "This crying anomaly in our education system obviously cannot continue without having the most injurious results. The Government has, therefore, decided to end it as speedily as possible." A commission had already been appointed to provide, appropriately and fairly, to separate Whites and non-Whites in the realm of higher education, whether inside or outside the existing universities. "Provided proper provision is made for the needs of both sections, the apartheid thus envisaged is not unjust. There is certainly nothing un-Christian about it, as has been asserted in some circles."

With the increasing need for education among the non-Europeans, their streaming to these two universities would also increase, with the result that the problem created by this mixing would correspondingly become more acute. Besides, this system of academic mixing was directly contradictory to the apartheid policy which had for many generations been traditionally applied and strictly preserved in lower and secondary education.

"It is equally a deviation from the policy originally laid down in the sphere of higher education when Fort Hare was founded as a purely non-European college - and then I do not even speak of the traditional and accepted national policy (*staatsbelied*)."

The idea of equality was evidently a human and not a Divine concept. Indeed, the earth was a round unity on which the same sun shone on all sides. But the habitable surface had been formed with such striking irregularity and was marked by such great difference in physical and climatic conditions that it seemed as if "the Almighty had purposely created it thus, so that it would be necessarily the cradle of an equally great variety of races, peoples and languages." So, likewise, was "God's nature no dead uniformity." He created different kinds, even within the human race, and continuous development increased the variety. "Man in his smallness and narrowness strives for likeness, for equalizing and levelling, but the Creator in His greatness, omniscience, and might decides otherwise."

The Tower of Babel had been built by man with incredible effort to ensure that there would always be one people on earth and one language. But God, we were told, came down from heaven to view their labours, figuratively, overthrew their tower and flattened it to the ground. By confusion of tongues, He created His own world with a great variety of peoples and languages. "The lesson we must learn is that God's idea and plan does not include dead uniformity and no claim for levelling or equality (*gelykmaking*)". On the contrary, it was a human and transient spirit of the times which demanded it. "This lesson is more necessary to-day than ever and also for our country."

It was a spirit of the times which called into being the striving of Babel. It was a spirit of the times, with its beautiful sounding and equalizing motto of "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity", which caused the French Revolution.

Even in South Africa there were repercussions a century and a half ago, but it was stopped by the common resistance of the Voortrekkers and the 1820 Settlers. If it had triumphed, South Africa would have been on the path of equalizing and blood-mixing, and would have been following in the footsteps of certain spiritual leaders of that time. The civilized Christian people of South Africa would have been to-day nothing more than a fifth-class basterstaatjie (bastard State), with a standard of living which would not deserve the name of civilization. "But, thank God, we were saved and therefore remained a White, civilized and Christian people with a fixed vocation."

In Europe it led to the liberation of all that was beastly in man, to chaos and large-scale bloodshed, to war and eventually to the suppression of all freedom. A similar spirit of the times inspired communism and still inspired it, and communism also professed to strive for freedom and unity of mankind through equality. There was the other attempt "to make of a well-intentioned international organization, the United Nations, a world domination which is out to force its equalizing ideas on the whole world, whatever the peculiar circumstances of each country, or whatever the standard of civilization may be. "I say nothing more, except this: the Tower of Babel, with its equalizing, came to nothing because it was in conflict with the divine ordering of the world, an ordering which envisaged unity - not an external unity, but a deeper, spiritual unity, and that in Himself as the Creator and Lord, alone."

Any new and contemporary Tower of Babel must and would succeed just as the first. There was no injustice, contempt and least of all oppression in a separate provision for the needs of Europeans and non-Europeans in the sphere of education. Mixing is fundamentally wrong, and will be injurious and even fatal for the best interest of both groups."

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At its meeting on 15th June, the S.R.C. voted to support N.U.A.U.S. moves on the matter.

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GLEANINGS FROM THIS WEEK'S LECTURES

Top level administrators in America change their jobs almost as often as they change their wives.

In almost any field two men together can do more than two men working separately. This does not, however, apply to little boys. Two little boys together only equal half a little boy, while three little boys together are not a little boy at all.

Pub. Admin.

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LIBEL INVITED

There are over 300 students at this college. Most can write, unless the Education Department is even more culpable than we thought. The editor craves criticism and promises to become a life-long friend to anyone who openly libels him in print. Does any other editor offer such generous concessions?

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"THE DEBATE"

(or "Where the National Capital of Australia should be")

As a result of a very lively, and in parts, hilarious debate held in the Students' Common Room on Thursday, 10th June, 1954, it was decided that the National Capital of Australia should be moved to Sydney.

The debate was on a Parliamentary basis, and in parts consisted of very fervent ad hominem attacks on the various speakers. However the main text of the government's argument consisted of some very good and salient points. Owing to the efficiency of the Hansard Reporter (George !!) most of the government's argument has been preserved for posterity. It ran principally along these lines

"The functions of the National Capital are to be the seat of the national Government, and the administration accruing from that government. However, before these two functions are practicable, there are certain necessary prerequisites for the site of the capital. Firstly, it must be readily accessible from all parts of the Commonwealth. Secondly it must have a good system of communication with the outside world. Thirdly it must conduce to the agreeableness of those required to live and work in the capital. Canberra fulfills none of these conditions.....

(It is regretted that lack of space prevents the printing of the "Prime Minister's" development of these arguments. Ed.)

"I believe that the rightful capital of this country should be in the city of Sydney. The Australian nation was founded in the great city of Sydney. As seen in World War II, Sydney is the focal point of international communications for Australia. Where was the great South Pacific base during the war? Sydney, of course! Not only has it the hub of the oversea communications in its midst but also that of transcontinental communications..... There is little doubt as to the acceptability of Sydney as the National Capital to those destined to be Commonwealth Public Servants. Its climate in comparison with Canberra is absolutely wonderful! It has adequate amusement facilities and a cultural standard fitting for the national capital.... The employees of the various Federal departments are drawn from the various capital cities but their reluctance to leave their home cities would be much less if they had to go to Sydney instead of the outpost of Canberra..... These points which I have outlined give substantial support to my affirmation of the Proposition that the National Capital should be moved to Sydney."

Editors Note: George must have gone to sleep by the time the Right Honourable "The Leader of the Opposition" got around to replying. Sorry folks! But if you come along to the next one you'll be able to hear all the arguments for yourself.

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THE NICE NATURES OF EDITORIAL STAFF

Our staff are very amiable souls. They keep a straight face when they get single-spaced copy. They do not flinch when it is written on both sides of the paper. They smile when it is illegible and positively jump for joy when it arrives days late. The editor wonders sometimes - are they mad or merely patient?

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

I hear with regret of the lack of young ladies at the last S.R.C. dance, as I remember many happy evenings at Friday night "hops" when I was a lass at the College.

Show some spirit girls! Come along and dance all through the night, as I used to, to give the young men some pleasure.

Yours more in sorrow than in anger,

"Mother of Ten".

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Sir,

Now that the Debating Society has given a clear decision against the transfer of the National Capital to Sydney, it becomes even more urgent to attend to a major inadequacy in Canberra's sporting resources.

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I refer, of course, to our lack of an efficiently run two-up school, hitherto barred by Mr. Ken Tughes, on the ground that this counter-attraction might reduce the six o'clock swill attendances. Officialdom is, however, relaxing its unco-operative attitude - the Territorial Officers have already agreed in principle to monthly raids and a standard scale of "presents" - and the S.R.C. would do well to support moves for an early reform. Their co-operation will not go unrewarded.

I am,
Yours etc.,
Thommo

(Perhaps the S.R.C. could get rid of more of their ill-gotten gains this way.
Mr. President please note! Ed.)